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World Wildlife Fund

Title of Project:

Sustainable Management of Tuna Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation in the Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ)

Organization:

World Wildlife Fund (with Government of Ghana, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, International Seafood Sustainability Foundation, industry and funded by the GEF)

Web site (if you have one):

<http://www.commonoceans.org/tuna-biodiversity/en/>

Priorities identified by the project:

Addressing issues of governance, IUU and bycatch.

Objectives of the project:

The project objective is to achieve efficiency and sustainability in tuna production and biodiversity conservation in the ABNJ, through the systematic application of an ecosystem approach in tuna fisheries for: (i) supporting the use of sustainable and efficient fisheries management and fishing practices by the stakeholders of the tuna resources; (ii) reducing illegal, unreported and unregulated [IUU] fishing; and (iii) mitigating adverse impacts of bycatch on biodiversity.

Overview of the project – provide 1-3 sentences:

The global tuna project includes a pilot project focused in Ghana. We are conducting trials of electronic monitoring (EM) systems aboard tuna purse seine vessels. The lessons learned and best practices disseminated to all tuna-RFMOs for upscaling. EM involves the placement of tamper-proof automated computing systems aboard fishing vessels to independently monitor a variety of activities to provide accurate, timely and



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verifiable data on the fishing operations being in compliance with existing regulations as well as fisheries data. Recent technology developments enable data capture for many routine fishery operations.

Relationship to security issues, if any:

The system can verify activity at sea.

Relationship to governance issues, if any:

The system can be used to verify catch composition and compliance with other RFMO and domestic requirements.

Status of the project - timeline of the project:

December 2014 – September 2018.

Designated point of contact:

Lauren Spurrier: (Lauren.Spurrier@wwfus.org)

Historical context for the project (how project initiated, etc.):

Ghana was selected as a pilot project within the ABNJ tuna project in part because of the challenges that Ghana was facing with regards to IUU and compliance. The Government of Ghana and industry volunteered that Ghana be the site of the pilot, along with Fiji where we are testing the technology with the tuna long-line fishery.

What kind of partnership do you have with Ghana? (partners/collaborators, funders, implementers, etc.):

Partner and funder.

Who is your main Ghana partner(s)? (government, agency, local NGO, university etc.):

Fisheries Commission, Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development.

For questions about our international development efforts in Africa, please contact NOAA Fisheries / Oriana Villar (oriana.villar@noaa.gov).